

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Paragraph beginning at line 18 of page 4 has been amended as follows:

As described above, according to the conventional voltage regulator including the fold-back type overcurrent limiting circuit as shown in Fig. 3, when the input power source voltage and the output voltage are small, that is, when the difference between the input and output voltages is small, the fold-back type overcurrent limiting circuit does not operate. Accordingly, the output voltage does not lower to a level at which the supply of the output current from the P-channel enhancement type MOS driver transistor 102 becomes impossible, so that the relationship between the output voltage and the output current tend to become the relationship as shown in Fig. 4.

Paragraph beginning at line 23 of page 11 has been amended as follows:

When a specified output voltage is being outputted, a feedback voltage is equal to a reference voltage, so that a gate voltage of the P-channel enhancement type MOS transistor 115 is equal to a gate voltage of the P-channel enhancement

type MOS transistor 116. Because the sources of the P-channel enhancement type MOS transistors 115 and 116 are common to each other, currents flowing into the P-channel enhancement type MOS transistors 115 and 116 are equal to each other and each current value is a half of a current flowing into the P-channel enhancement type MOS sense transistor 110.

Therefore, when the half of the current flowing into the P-channel enhancement type MOS sense transistor 110, which is proportional to the output current, reaches a level at which the N-channel enhancement type MOS transistor 112 is turned on, the overcurrent limiting operation is made.

Paragraph beginning at line 22 of page 12 has been amended as follows:

Conversely, as the output voltage drops, the current flowing into the P-channel enhancement type MOS sense transistor 110, which is required to flow the predetermined amount of current into the P-channel enhancement type MOS transistor 115, may be made smaller accordingly.

Paragraph beginning at line 3 of page 13 has been amended as follows:

The overcurrent limiting operation is made when the N-channel enhancement type MOS transistor 112 is turned on. Therefore, a current made to flow into the resistor 111 and

the P-channel enhancement type MOS transistor 115, which is necessary to turn on the N-channel enhancement type MOS transistor 112, is kept constant regardless of the values of the output current and the output voltage.

Paragraph beginning at line 10 of page 13 has been amended as follows:

However, as described above, the current flowing into the P-channel enhancement type MOS sense transistor 110, which is required to flow the predetermined amount of current into the P-channel enhancement type MOS transistor 115, may be made smaller as the output voltage lowers. In addition, the current flowing into the P-channel enhancement type MOS sense transistor 110 is proportional to the output current. Taking into consideration these relations, it can be said that the output current for which the overcurrent limiting operation is made ~~lowers~~ lower as the output voltage lowers. That is, a relationship between the output voltage and the output current exhibits a fold-back shape as shown in Fig. 2.